

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LA PAZ 07302 151320Z

71

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 MCT-01 SY-05 CAB-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00

L-03 IO-13 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 TRSE-00 EUR-12 /080 W

----- 122031

R 151305Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2346

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 7302

LIMA FOR FAA ATTACHE RENE CARDONA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BL

SUBJECT: SECURITY IN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS IN BOLIVIA

REF: STATE 212490

1. EMBASSY ADVISING GOB OF USG CONCERN FOR AIRPORT SECURITY
AND INTEREST IN GOB RATIFICATION OF HAGUE AND MONTREAL
CONVENTIONS VIA DIPLOMATIC NOTE.

2. RE ASSESSMENT OF AIRPORT SECURITY IN EFFECT AS REQUESTED
PARA 3 REFTEL, BOLIVIA MAINTAINS THREE (3) INTERNATIONAL AIR-
PORTS - EL ALTO IN LA PAZ, EL TROMPILLO IN SANTA CRUZ AND THE
AIRPORT AT TRINIDAD. BASED ON EXPERIENCE OF MISSION PERSONNEL
AND DISCUSSIONS WITH FAA AND ICAO PERSONNEL ON ASSIGNMENT IN
BOLIVIA, THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF SECURITY SITUATION AT
THREE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS:

A. EL ALTO - SERVICES A RELATIVELY HEAVY FLOW OF INTER-
NATIONAL TRAFFIC FROM NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES, PANAMA, THE US AND
EUROPE. BOTH THE TRANSIT LOUNGE AND CUSTOMS ARE ARE
PHYSICALLY SEPARATED FROM THE REST OF THE AIRPORT FACILITIES,
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LA PAZ 07302 151320Z

AND ENTRANCES ARE GUARDED BY FULLTIME POLICEMEN. ENTRY OF

NON-TRANSIT PERSONNEL TO THESE AREAS IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN (AND ENFORCED) DURING ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES. AT OTHER TIMES, HOWEVER, IT IS FAIRLY EASY TO GAIN ENTRY TO THESE AREAS WITH LITTLE OR NO CHECKS MADE FOR SECURITY PRECAUTIONS. ALSO, THE SYSTEM FOR CHECKING PASSENGERS AND BAGGAGE BEARS ONLY A CURSORY RESEMBLANCE TO SECURITY MEASURES TAKEN AT US AIRPORTS, AND UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL CAN EASILY ENTER THE AIRCRAFT LAND-ING STRIP ITSELF. A SECURITY INSPECTION OF EL ALTO WAS TO BE MADE BY REGIONAL FAA ATTACHE DURING RECENT VISIT, AND DEPARTMENT SHOULD REFER TO HIS REPORT.

B. EL TROMPILLO - IS THE RECENTLY OPENED INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN SANTA CRUZ, WHERE MOST NON-DOMESTIC FLIGHTS ARE TO AND FROM ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, PANAMA AND THE US. SECURITY IN TRANSIT AND CUSTOMS AREAS SERVICING INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS IS NEXT TO NON-EXISTENT. THERE IS A SEPARATE BAGGAGE HANDLING AREA FOR INTERNATIONAL PASSENGERS, BUT THERE ARE NO RESTRICTIONS ON ENTRY OF PERSONNEL. ALSO, THERE ARE EVEN FEWER AIRPORT SECURITY GUARDS IN EVIDENCE AT EL TROMPILLO THAN AT EL ALTO.

C. TRINIDAD - REPORTS FROM MISSION PERSONNEL INDICATE AIRPORT SECURITY IN TRINIDAD IS EVEN MORE LAX THAN AT OTHER TWO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS. THERE IS, HOWEVER, CONSIDERABLY LESS NON-DOMESTIC PASSENGER TRAFFIC THROUGH THIS PORT.

STEDMAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PHYSICAL SECURITY, POLICIES, REPORTS, AIRPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LAPAZ07302
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760348-0783
From: LA PAZ
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760959/aaaabybt.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 212490
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <05 AUG 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECURITY IN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS IN BOLIVIA
TAGS: EAIR, BL
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006